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1756

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Cathie J. BURKE et al.

Group Art Unit: 1756

Application No.: 10/046,245

Examiner: D. Chacko Davis

Filed: January 16, 2002

Docket No.: 106452

For: METHODS OF PATTERNING RESISTS AND STRUCTURES INCLUDING THE
PATTERNED RESISTS

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

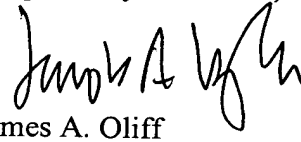
Sir:

In reply to the August 1, 2003 Restriction Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-9 and 12-24, with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all of claims 1-26 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: September 16, 2003

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